

Message Text

CONFIDENTIAL

PAGE 01 BANGKO 17732 140609Z

11

ACTION EA-14

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 PM-07 NSC-10 SPC-03 SS-20 RSC-01

CIAE-00 INR-10 NSAE-00 L-03 DRC-01 /070 W

----- 119039

R 140430Z NOV 73

FM AMEMBASSY BANGKOK

TO SECDEF WASHDC

CINCPAC

INFO SECSTATE WASHDC 8237

COMUSSAG

CINCPACAF

COMUSMACTHAI

13TH AIR FORCE

13TH ADVON

C O N F I D E N T I A L BANGKOK 17732

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: MARR, TH

SUBJECT: WEAPONS RANGES IN THAILAND

REF: BANGKOK 17166

1. TEMPORARY APPROVAL TO USE UDORN EMERGENCY JETTISON AREA AS JOINT USE TACTICAL WEAPONS RANGE (REFTEL) WAS ON THE BASIS OF STATE/DOD GUIDANCE WHICH WAS REFLECTED IN EMBASSY MOMORANDUMS TO LTG KRIANGSAK. PERTINENT PORTIONS OF THESE LATEST MEMORANDUMS ARE QUOTED BELOW TO CLARIFY EXACTLY WHAT WAS APPROVED BY RTG.

2. ON JUNE 12 WE WROTE: QUOTE. AFTER THROUGH EVALUATION OF ALL TRAINING REQUIREMENTS, THERE IS, HOWEVER, STILL A NEED FOR AN ADDITIONAL JOINT AIR-TO-GROUND TACTICAL WEAPONS TRAINING AREA TO ACCOMMODATE TRAINING REQUIRED BY THE RTAF/UUVF.

3. THIS AREA WOULD DIFFER FROM CHANDY IN THAT ALL PRACTICE BOMBING WOULD USE INERT ORDNANCE, WOULD NOT
CONFIDENTIAL

CONFIDENTIAL

PAGE 02 BANGKO 17732 140609Z

REQUIRE GROUND OBSERVERS AND AFTER INITIAL TARGET

POINTS/DERELICT VEHICLES WERE PUT IN AREA, ONLY PERIODIC VISITS WOULD BE REQUIRED TO RENEW TARGETS. OUR EVALUATION INDICATES THAT THE CURRENTLY APPROVED UDORN JETTISON AREA WOULD BE SUITABLE AS A JOINT TACTICAL WEAPONS RANGE. TARGETS WOULD BE PLACED AND ORDNANCE IMPACT LIMITED TO THE CURRENT AREA; HOWEVER, TO PROVIDE AN ADDITIONAL SAFETY BUFFER ZONE, WE WOULD PROPOSE AN EXPANSION OF THE CURRENT AREA. END QUOTE.

4. ON AUGUST 14 WE REITERATED OUR URGENT REQUIREMENT BUT WITHDREW REQUEST FOR EXPANDED BUFFER ZONE: QUOTE. WITH THE CESSATION OF BOMBING ON 15 AUGUST, THE REQUIREMENT TO MAINTAIN AIR CREW TACTICAL BOMBING PROFICIENCY ON RANGES BECOMES ESSENTIAL. ALTHOUGH THE JOINT USE OF CHANDY RANGE AS CURRENTLY APPROVED WILL SATISFY SCOREABLE REQUIREMENTS, THERE WILL ALSO BE AN URGENT NEED TO EXERCISE AIR-TO-GROUND COMBAT TECHNIQUES ON A TACTICAL WEAPONS RANGE. AS ORDNANCE USED WHILE TRAINING ON A TACTICAL WEAPONS RANGE IS ALL INERT, THE PRESENTLY APPROVED UDORN JETTISON AREA IS ACCEPTABLE AND SAFE WITHOUT EXPANSION TO PROVIDE A BUFFER ZONE AS PREVIOUSLY PROPOSED. END QUOTE. MASTERS

CONFIDENTIAL

NNN

Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 01 JAN 1994
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: MILITARY TRAINING, MILITARY BASES, TEST RANGES
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Draft Date: 14 NOV 1973
Decaption Date: 01 JAN 1960
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Authority: golinofr
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 28 MAY 2004
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1973BANGKO17732
Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: n/a
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: GS
Errors: N/A
Film Number: n/a
From: BANGKOK
Handling Restrictions: n/a
Image Path:
ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1973/newtext/t19731135/aaaaazth.tel
Line Count: 85
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE
Office: ACTION EA
Original Classification: CONFIDENTIAL
Original Handling Restrictions: n/a
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Page Count: 2
Previous Channel Indicators:
Previous Classification: CONFIDENTIAL
Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Reference: BANGKOK 17166
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Authority: golinofr
Review Comment: n/a
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 06 DEC 2001
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review History: RELEASED <06-Dec-2001 by smithrj>; APPROVED <07 MAR 2002 by golinofr>
Review Markings:

Declassified/Released
US Department of State
EO Systematic Review
30 JUN 2005

Review Media Identifier:
Review Referrals: n/a
Review Release Date: n/a
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
Subject: WEAPONS RANGES IN THAILAND
TAGS: MARR, TH, US
To: CINCPAC
Type: TE
Markings: Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 30 JUN 2005